



STATE OF TENNESSEE
COUNCIL ON CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

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Council on Children's Mental Health
February 17, 2011
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Otter Creek Church of Christ

MEETING SUMMARY

Attendee List:

Susan Adams
Chrystal Armstrong
Giovonnt'e Baker
Sumita Banerjee
Louise Barnes
Carole Beltz
Kathy Benedetto
Bonnie Beneke
Susanne Bennett
Virginia Trotter Betts
Kathryn Bowen
Haley Boyd
Hannah Boyd
Terri Boyd
Shawn Brooks
Pam Brown
Dana Casey
Edwina Chappell
Nicole Cobb
Mike Cull
Tracey Davis
Bill Dobbins
Katrina Donaldson
Carol Dunaway
Richard Edgar
Deseree Ewing
Jacquita Ewing
Rhonda Ewing
Nneka Gordon
Kathy Gracey

Betty Adams Green
Sharon Green
Antionette Hatton
Vickie Harden
Craig Hargrow
Antionette Hatton
Kurt Hippel
Kim Holloway
Cindy House
Stephanie House
E. Ann Ingram
Jeanne James
Petrina Jesz
Dustin Keller
Richard Kennedy
Rachel Krauss
Randal Lea
Mandy Lewis
James Martin
Shelley Martin
Amber Morris McCoy
Angie McKinney Jones
Frank Mix
Geronn Moore
Michael Myszta
Jena Napier
Elvira Newcomb
Tammy Oliver
Linda O'Neal
Freida Outlaw

Steve Petty
Dawn Puster
Anne Robertson
Kathy Rogers
Mary Rolando
Ajanta Roy
John Rust
Mary Linden Salter
Leslie Schenk
Sara Smith
Kubra Snow
Steve Sparks
Debrah Stafford
Tom Starling
Susan Steckel
April Stewart
Tracey Stewart
Sarah Suiter
Millie Sweeney
Servella Terry
Doug Varney
Pat Wade
Heather Wallace
James C. Waller
Michael Warren
Ellyn Wilbur
Marie Williams
Mark Wolf
Christina Kloker Young

Welcome and Introductions (Linda O'Neal)

- O'Neal recognized Former Commissioner Virginia Trotter Betts for her accomplishments during her tenure with TDMH and welcomed her to address the Council about "Children's Mental Health: Where We Have Been." This was an agenda item for the December meeting cancelled due to inclement weather.
- New Tennessee Department of Mental Health (TDMH) Commissioner E. Douglas Varney is a long-time provider of mental health and substance abuse services in upper East Tennessee and he will address "Where We Are Going."
- Millie Sweeney announced the State of the Child Conference October 19 through October 22. The keynote speaker is Karl Dennis and the theme is "Family: The Heart of Wraparound."

Acceptance of Meeting Summary for October 21, 2010 CCMH Meeting (O'Neal)

- October 21, 2010 Meeting Summary Acceptance (**SWEENEY MOTION, BROWN SECONDED, UNANIMOUS**)

Children's Mental Health: Where We Have Been and Where We Are Going (Former Commissioner Virginia Trotter Betts and Commissioner Doug Varney)

- Former Commissioner Betts advised the Council's most important endeavor is to educate the legislators, particularly the newly-elected ones, on the crucial issues surrounding children's mental health.
 - Council members should carry the message that mental illness and substance abuse are real conditions, both diagnosable and treatable, and recovery should be the expectation if appropriate clinical services are available.
 - She encouraged participants to invest time and efforts to increase public knowledge about the prevalence and impact of mental illness and substance abuse in Tennessee.
 - Particularly since the transfer of the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services (DADAS) from the Department of Health to the Department of Mental Health, many efforts have been made to integrate behavioral health and primary care services, and the use of evidence-based practices.
 - DADAS has led the Veteran's Task Force and made a major effort to improve services to veterans, service members and their families.
 - State funded mental health services were initially consolidated into the TennCare program eliminating services for those who are not eligible. In response, staff collaboration resulted in the Behavioral Health Safety Net currently funded with non-recurring dollars.
 - Other changes in the TennCare program resulted in certain programs needing to be funded from within the current budget of TDMH including crisis services to the uninsured, Crisis Stabilization Units (CSU) and walk-in centers.
 - During Betts' tenure TDMH had planned to expand the adult system, expand housing programs, and sustain the peer support centers as "whole health centers."

- The loss of recurring state funding has been minimized with the use of federal and rainy day funds.
- There will always be challenges and Betts highly commended the staff at TDMH and is confident they will continue to meet the challenges of underfunding and changes.
- Betts then introduced the new Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health, Doug Varney.
- Commissioner Varney began working at a group home for boys in the early seventies but has been with Frontier Health for the majority of his career.
 - His first challenge was to submit the Fiscal Year 2012 budget. He found the Governor to be supportive and wanting to make a real difference with limited funds.
 - Commissioner Varney believes government should use the budget challenges to look at doing some things differently, to minimize any damage done by budget cuts and possibly resetting priorities. He wants the department to be customer-oriented and customer-friendly.
 - He also wants to continue to carry the message of moving past stigma. He wishes to convey a sense of hope moving forward. He encouraged participants to look at the positive advances in mental health treatment over the past thirty years.
 - Commissioner Varney will be considering possible reorganization of TDMH over the next several months. He announced Dr. Frieda Outlaw was leaving the department on February 22 to pursue another position and Marie Williams will oversee the Division of Special Populations until a permanent replacement is named.
 - TennCare remains the major source within state government for direct services. He stressed the need to leverage those Medicaid dollars as much as possible. In addition, internal cabinet level workgroups and staff within TDMH are working on other potential funding streams and cross department collaboration.
 - The best way to contact Commissioner Varney with questions or concerns is by e-mail at Doug.Varney@tn.gov.
 - Commissioner Varney stated Governor Haslam will present his budget proposal in his State of the State address on March 14. It will be carried via streaming video on the state's website (www.tn.gov).
- Ms. O'Neal recognized Commissioner Betts' work as Co-Chair of CCMH and presented her with mementos.
- Ms. O'Neal thanked the Council members for their participation. The Council has met fifteen times and the fewest number in attendance was forty-one. Today, the highest number of participants was present, with eighty-nine attending.

Coordinated School Health (Sara Smith and Tammy Oliver)

Refer to green handout in packet, "TN Schools and Mental Health Systems Integration Grant Final Report."

- Ms. Smith reviewed the handout. The grant project was completed on a state level (not individual school systems.) The outcomes were highly successful, with 74 percent of LEAs reporting MOUs were signed between the schools, community mental health providers and child serving agencies, 77 percent reported faculty and staff mental health training, and 77 percent reported having mental health policies and guidelines. Additionally, 92 percent of team leaders indicated their mental health teams plan to continue meeting after the grant period concludes.
- Tammy Oliver reported Lebanon Special Schools consists of five facilities grades Pre-K through eighth grade, and another is currently being built. School administration staff highlights mental health issues. Assessments are done to identify strengths and needs. There is one counselor per facility and many more are needed. Staff receive Mental Health 101 training. They have partnered with Centerstone for more counselors (teachers should not make diagnoses), and the MOU includes referral procedures. While the group is working through some stigma issues, the biggest challenge is transportation. Services need to be available onsite.

Overview of Quality Service Review (QSR) Process (Pat Wade and Frank Mix)

Refer to blue handout in packet, "QSR Child and Family Service Reviews."

- QSR is a comprehensive evaluation process evaluating the Department of Children's Services (DCS) service system performance and outcomes. The process reviews a random sample of children in state custody. The reviewers include TCCY, DCS and Tennessee Center for Child Welfare (TCCW). The cases are reviewed in pairs with one person being a certified reviewer. Collaboration adds integrity to the review process. The crux of the QSR is the interview process. The test examining performance is based on the relationship between the person and the system and has 22 indicators ranked from 1 through 6. The report concludes with recommendations. One area needing improvement is services for transition-aged youth (18 to 24) as they attempt to navigate between the children and youth and adult service systems.

Mule Town Youth Evaluation Project (James Martin, Stephanie House, Deterius McClain, Antionette Hatton, Hannah Boyd, and Hailey Boyd)

- Mr. Martin stated the Youth in Action Council addresses stigma reduction and attempts to recruit youth with and without mental illness or serious emotional disturbance (SED) to work on enlightening people in their communities.
- Rhonda Ewing announced the Jackson Youth in Action Council has a new program that began in December called the No Bullying Zone.
- Hailey Boyd shared her experiences in the Youth in Action Council in Columbia. There are 20-25 members and they discuss many issues of children's mental health from community outreach to the cost of services. They elect a Governing Body each year. It has been particularly helpful to Hailey since her twin sister was diagnosed with Oppositional Defiant Disorder.

- Hannah Boyd said her experience with the Mule Town Family Network (MTFN) has given her hope and has helped her to better share her feelings with others.
- Antoinette Hatton discussed various exercises in the Columbia Youth in Action Council such as describing feelings in a weather report format, creative writing and a disk jockey visited the group and helped them better relate via musical expression.
- Stephanie House stated her group went to San Antonio with a representative from Centerstone and plan to go to Washington, D.C. in the near future.

Legislative Overview and Update (Kurt Hippel and Steve Petty)

Refer to white handout included in the packet "CCMH Legislative Report 2/17/11."

- Hippell, TDMH Legislative Liaison, reported the most striking characteristic of this General Assembly is the number of new legislators, legislative leadership posts, and control of the House and Senate by Republicans. The first woman was elected House Speaker, Beth Harwell. Other key legislative posts are:

Senate Speaker/Lt. Governor	Ron Ramsey
Senate Majority Leader	Mark Norris
Senate Minority Leader	Jim Kyle
Senate Republican Caucus Chair	Bill Ketron
Senate Democratic Caucus Chair	Lowe FinneyHouse Majority Leader
Gerald McCormick	
House Minority Leader	Craig Fitzhugh
House Republican Caucus Chair	Debra Maggart
House Democratic Caucus Chair	Mike Turner

- The cut-off for filing bills is today, February 17, 2011. Bills of interest to TDMH are a joint resolution regarding the expansion of telemedicine and two bills concerning ephedrine and pseudo-ephedrine. One would call for electronic tracking of all purchases of the drug and the other bill would require a prescription to purchase these medications.
- Steve Petty, TCCY Legislative Liaison, announced SB 0166 is the Sunset Bill for the CCMH. The Sunset Bill for TCCY is SB 0194. There has been a change made in structure in that all committees may only have one subcommittee instead of two or three as in the past. He reminded all Council members the TCCY Legislative listserv is open to the public and can be found on the TCCY website at www.tn.gov/tccy.

Family and Youth Engagement Discussion (Kathy Rodgers Facilitating)

- Rogers asked for input on ways to improve and enhance communication between family members and youth. Suggestions included:
 - Expand use of telecommunications to improve access;
 - Compile a list of frequently used acronyms;

- Create youth networking opportunities via social networking sites (Facebook, Twitter);
 - Recruit volunteer mentors;
 - Make available information that could be taken back to communities;
 - Meetings with staff, parents and youth about thirty minutes before and/or after meetings, discuss the agenda, and answer any questions;
 - Increase parent participation in all areas;
 - Have young people make statements;
 - Encourage family and youth participation in creating the agenda;
 - Provide fliers or brochures of coming events and training opportunities;
 - Get involvement from other groups such as universities and do outreach to people in public health, pediatrics and parent-teacher associations;
 - Invite other System of Care participants; and
 - Involve DCS child and family teams, particularly for child welfare and juvenile justice issues.
- Rodgers will invite participants in System of Care communities to future meetings. Please send additional feedback to Rodgers or Keller.

CCMH By-Laws Update and Workgroup Next Steps Planning (Dustin Keller Facilitating)

- The general by-laws are currently being drafted. The decision was made to start with a small number of by-laws and additional ones may be added later. An ad hoc workgroup will meet and make suggestions to the steering committee.
- Workgroup next steps include a mini “retreat” being organized and co-chairs will meet to discuss refocusing the workgroups. A next steps document will be created from the retreat.

Discussion Plans for Next Meeting (O’Neal)

- The next meeting is April 21. O’Neal mentioned several items to be scheduled for April including an update on the Tennessee Lives Count project and the Early Childhood Advisory Committee. Some participants expressed some discomfort in the present meeting place. Ms. O’Neal asks that suggestions as to alternatives be sent to Dustin Keller.